C O L O R A D O DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE



Inside Ag June 2009

Colorado Wine Industry Getting National Attention



Doug Caskey, Executive Director of the Colorado Wine Industry Development Board and Chairperson of WineAmerica's State Agency Council

Doug Caskey has been the Executive Director of the Colorado Wine Industry Development Board for more than 10 years. As part of the Colorado Department of Agriculture's Markets Division, Doug actively promotes Colorado's 80 wineries and the state's award-winning wines.

Now Doug is putting Colorado wine in front of a national audience. Doug is the new chairperson of WineAmerica's State Agency Council. The State Associations Council (SAC) is a partnership of WineAmerica, the National Association of American Wineries with more than 800 member wineries in 48 states, and allied state and regional winery and grape grower associations. The Council provides an invaluable forum for communication and grassroots action on issues of concern to American wineries. Currently over 65 state and regional wine and grape growers associations have joined the SAC. Colorado council members include the Colorado Wine Industry Development Board and the Colorado Association of Viticulturists and Enologists (CAVE). The SAC meets twice yearly to discuss common concerns and strategies for shaping public policy in their states.

"The SAC is a terrific networking organization which has been enormously helpful to frontline

state association representatives as they seek positive solutions to winery policy issues in their states," said Bill Nelson, President of WineAmerica. "Doug Caskey has been a key member of the council and will now play an important national leadership role."

Doug remains actively involved in the wine industry at the local level as well. He has recently volunteered to serve a three year term on the CAVE board of directors. "It has always been important to have members in common between the Wine Board and CAVE (formerly known as RMAVV)," said Doug.

As summer approaches, take time to smell a bouquet, of Colorado wine of course! To find a Colorado winery and tasting room near



One of Colorado's grape vineyards located on the Western Slope.

you, visit www.coloradowine.com. For more information about WineAmerica, visit www.wineamerica.org.